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Preventive Approach against MITM Attack in Electronic Transaction Using an Encryption Algorithm

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Abstract: Recent growth in the development of e-commerce and cloud Computing, SSL protocol is more and more widely deployed security protocol used in all kinds of network services. SSL protocol by providing end to end secure authentication, message encryption, data integrity check and other security mechanisms protects the security of the communication process over a computer network. In recent years, due to the development of cloud computing, the reliable connection security between the client and the cloud is also an extremely important issue. SSL have total three sub protocols under it: Handshake Protocol; Record Protocol and Alert Protocol. Handshake protocol defines how to establish the secure connection between the client and the server using the cipher suites and other parameters that both have agreed upon. Record Protocol defines how to encrypt the data that is to be sent through the network using the key that have been established during the handshake protocol. Alert protocol defines how to send the custom messages to other whenever they detect any intrusion in the system. The goal of our proposed system is to create secure channels over insecure networks using Diffie Hellman key agreement protocol.

Keywords: MITM, SSL, Cryptography, Security, Diffie-Hellman-Key-Agreement-Protocol, Authorization, Attack.

I. INTRODUCTION

Secure Sockets Layer have three sub protocols under it: Handshake Protocol; Record Protocol and Alert Protocol. Handshake protocol defines how to establish the secure connection between the client and the server using the cipher suites and other parameters that both have agreed upon. Record Protocol defines how to encrypt the data that is to be sent through the network using the key that have been established during the handshake protocol. Alert protocol defines how to send the custom messages to other whenever they detect any intrusion in the system. As I need to show the defects in the SSL methods, handshake protocol (see Fig 1) need to be discussed first. It is as follows:

Step 1: The client Sends a “ClientHello” message to the server he wishes to contact. This message contains the Version No of the SSL which client can support with a 32-byte random no. This message also contains the Cipher Suites, session-specific data and the compression method that the client can support.

Step 2: Now the Server sends a “ServerHello” message to the client. This message is the complement to the Client Hello message. This message contains the version of SSL both the party will support, 32-byte random no., Session-specific data and the cipher suite and the compression method that it will support.

Step 3: Server then sends the “ServerKeyExchange” message to the client. This message contains the public key information itself, for e.g.: the Public Key in case of RSA. Then to authenticate the client, server requests for the client’s certificate information, if it has one.

Step 4: After all the information have been passed to the client, server sends a “ServerHelloDone” indicating the client that server’s phase of initial negotiation have been done and now its clients turn.

Step 5: Now the client will send its key information to the server with “ClientKeyExchange” message encrypted with the server public key so that the legitimate server only can access client’s information.

Step 6: Now as both the client and the server have sent their key information and other parameters, Client sends a “ChangeCipherSpec” message to the server to notify all the parameters of the secured connection and activate the same.

Step 7: Then the client sends the “Finished” message to the server to let it check the newly activated options.

Step 8: Server sends the same message “ChangeCipherSpec” to client side to notify all the options in the secured connections and then send “Finished” message to the client to verify all options.

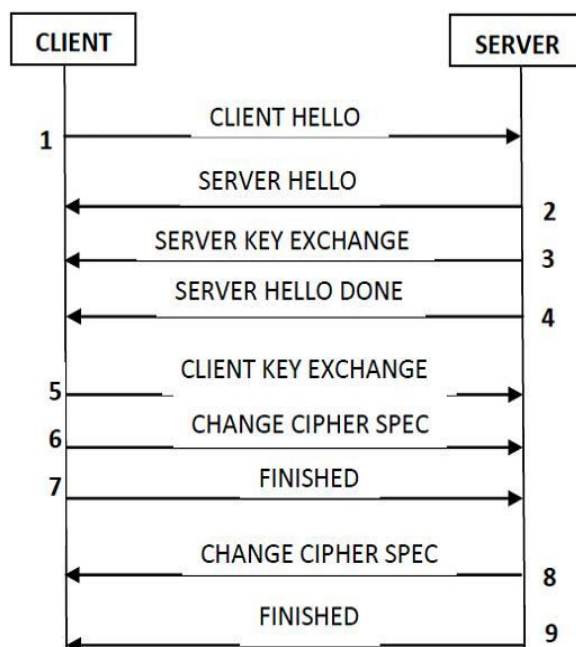


Fig.1 SSL Handshake

Next to the Handshake Protocol is the Record Layer Protocol. This layer encapsulates all the data into a frame format of size 5bytes preceding other protocol messages. This protocol provides a single frame format for Alert, ChangeCipherSpec, Handshake and Application Data.

A. Phishing

Your Phishing is the act of stealing user sensitive information by pretending to be a trustworthy entity in an electronic communication. In the simplest avatar of Phishing attack, a Phisher sets up a fake or bogus website, this closely resembles the targeted original website. It then sends out a bulk of spam e-mails, purporting to be from a legitimate organization, which convinces the user to visit the counterfeit website. Of the many users who get the e-mails, a few fall prey to the attack and give out their credentials. It is well known that Phishers rely on almost any kind of social engineering methods including email, telephone call, people to people communication, SMS, IM. They also leverage other technical subterfuge to lure the victims to the spoofed webpage.

Apart from this mechanism of Phishing attacks, other technical subterfuge schemes plant crime ware onto user's PC which intercepts any information which can be cashed upon by the Phisher such as usernames, passwords, SSN's etc. According the latest reports from Anti-Phishing Working Group (APWG) about 35 percent of the computers were infected with malware.

Yet in another dangerous scenario a Phisher can run its own network node e.g. Wi-Fi access point which allows travelers and even other user to free Internet connectivity. Once user connects to such network node for access to Internet, it is obvious that user's information can be compromised easily.

B. Man In The Middle Attack

Man-In-The-Middle attack is the popular method to attack on SSL. MITM attack is also known by bucket brigade attack or sometimes it is known as Janus attack which makes the users difficult to understand that whether they are connected to original secured connection or not. Since the certificate that is being passed during the established connection setup is insecure, attacker can easily modify or stolen the information in the certificate and leave the approval of the certificate to the user.

The attacker keep himself or herself between two connection, making them believe that they are on secure connection, Since many users are not well educated about the where about of the forged certificates and their corresponding entire connection is being controlled by the attacker, they accept the certificates making way for the attackers to implement the attack.

II. PROPOSED SYSTEM

The ultimate goal of our proposed system is to create secure channels over insecure networks or computers. The TLS (Transport Layer Security), or SSL (Secure Socket Layers) in its more modern implementation, is protocols designed to provide security for network communication by means of encryption we use Diffie Hellman key agreement algorithm over a computer network. This protocol is most commonly associated with other protocols to provide a secure implementation of the service that protocol provides that is HTTPS with secure socket layer.

We will use the browser plugin for Man-in-the middle having the same url as the original website.

III. SIMULATION

For design our system we used MATLAB for development. MATLAB is best suited for our proposed method.

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A. Starting of the server

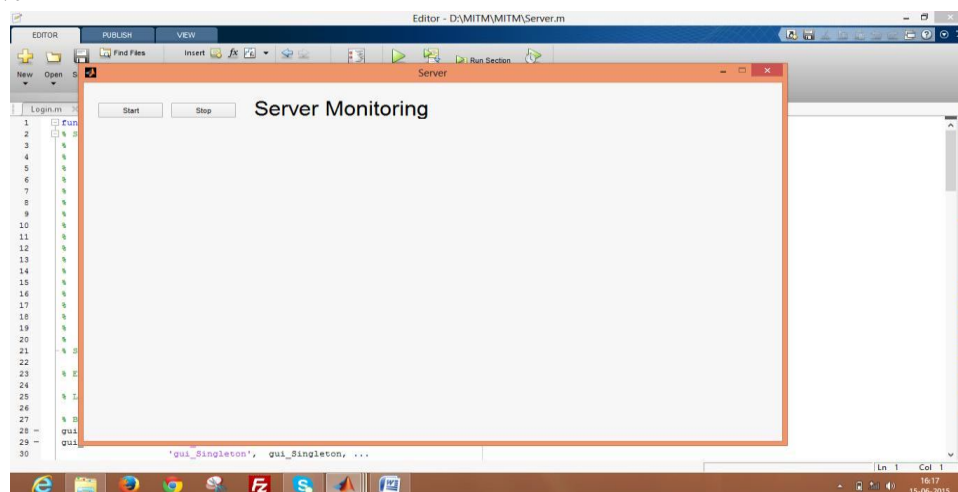


Fig 2 Starting the server

B. Server monitoring after start

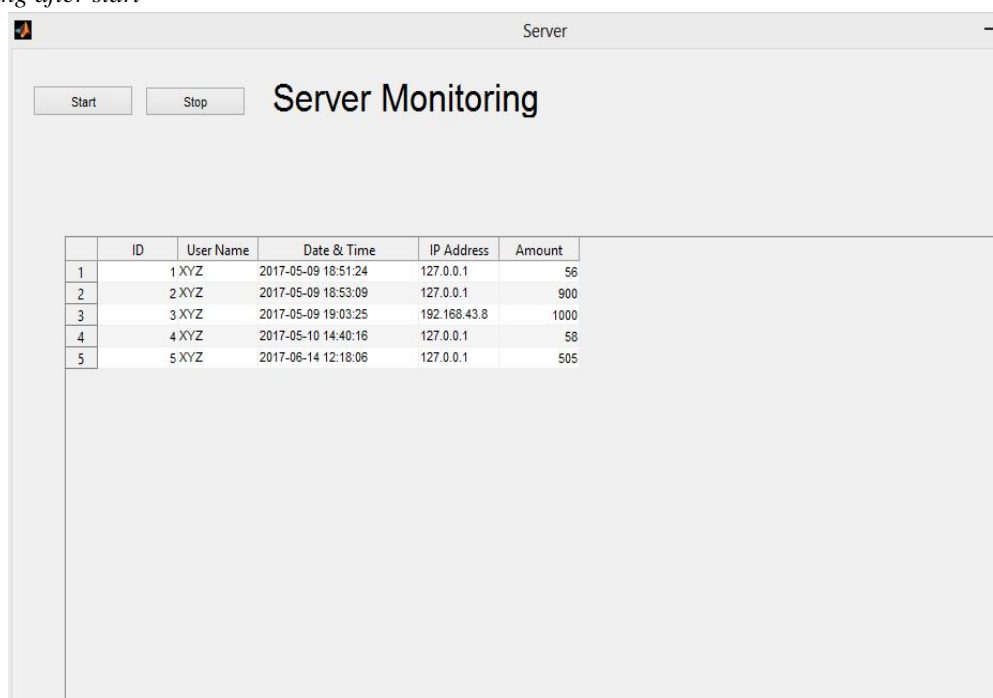


Fig 3 Server monitoring after start

C. Authorization by the users

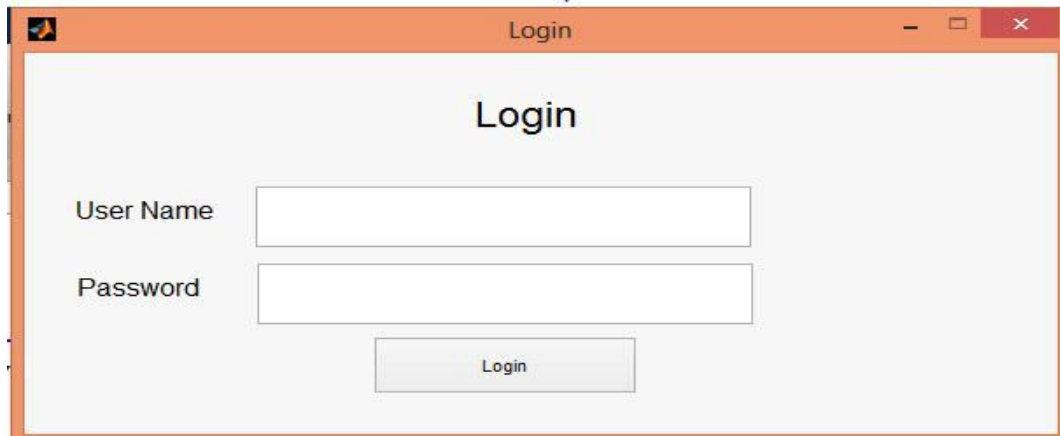
A screenshot of a software window titled "Login". The window has a light gray background and an orange border. It contains the title "Login" in bold black text. Below the title, there are two input fields: "User Name" and "Password". Below the "Password" field is a "Login" button.

Fig 4 Authorization by the users

D. Valid user account assessment

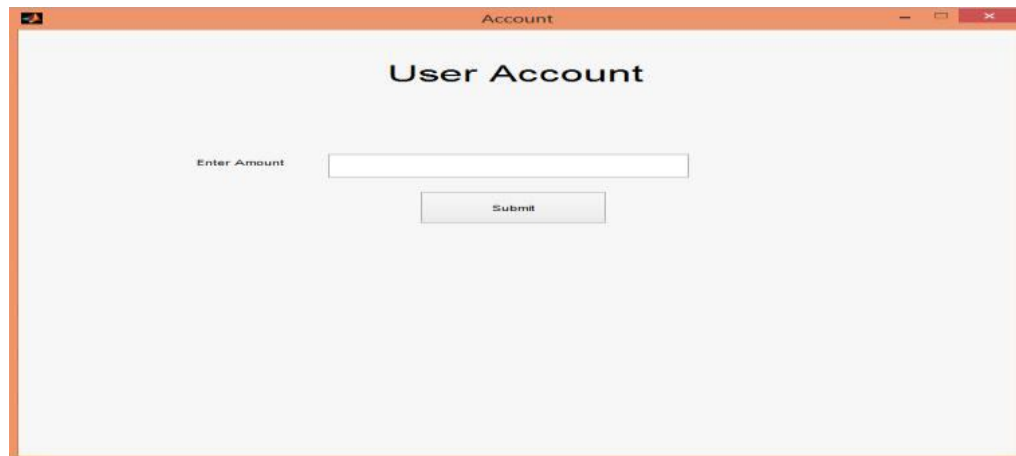
A screenshot of a software window titled "Account". The window has a light gray background and an orange border. It contains the title "User Account" in bold black text. Below the title, there is a label "Enter Amount" followed by an input field. Below the input field is a "Submit" button.

Fig 5 Valid user account assessment

E. Transaction done message

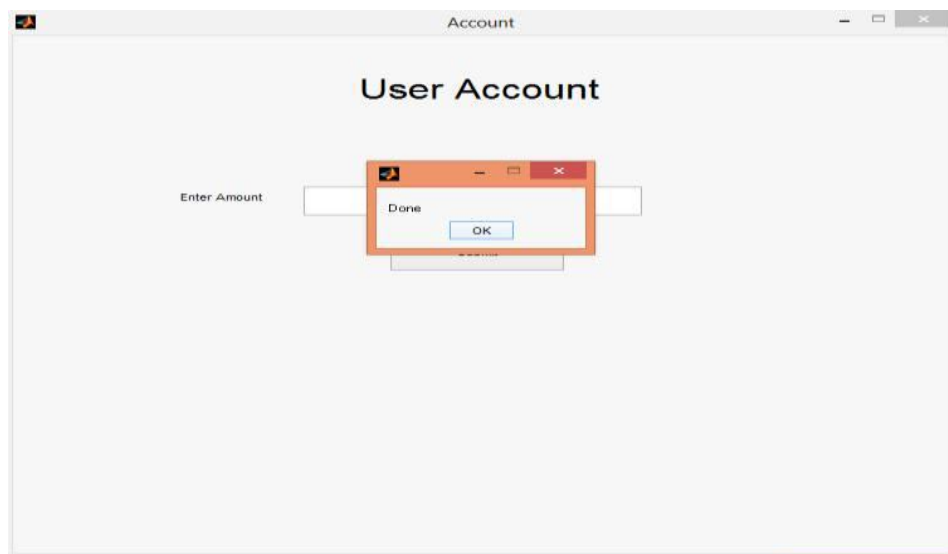
A screenshot of a software window titled "Account" showing the "User Account" form. A small dialog box is overlaid on top of the form. The dialog box has a title bar with a close button and contains the text "Done" and an "OK" button.

Fig 6 Transaction done message

F. Authorization by server

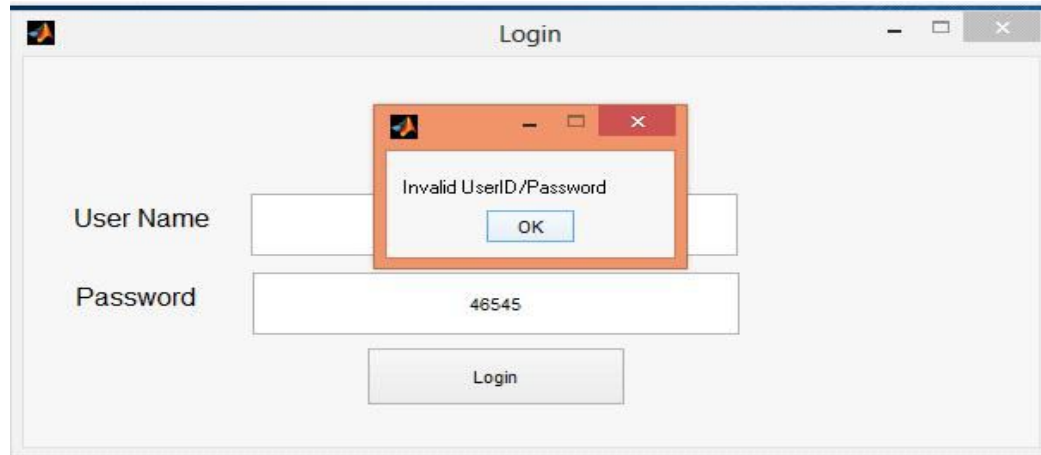


Fig 7 Authorization by server

G. proxy server of hacker



Fig 8 Proxy server of hacker

H. Hacking detected

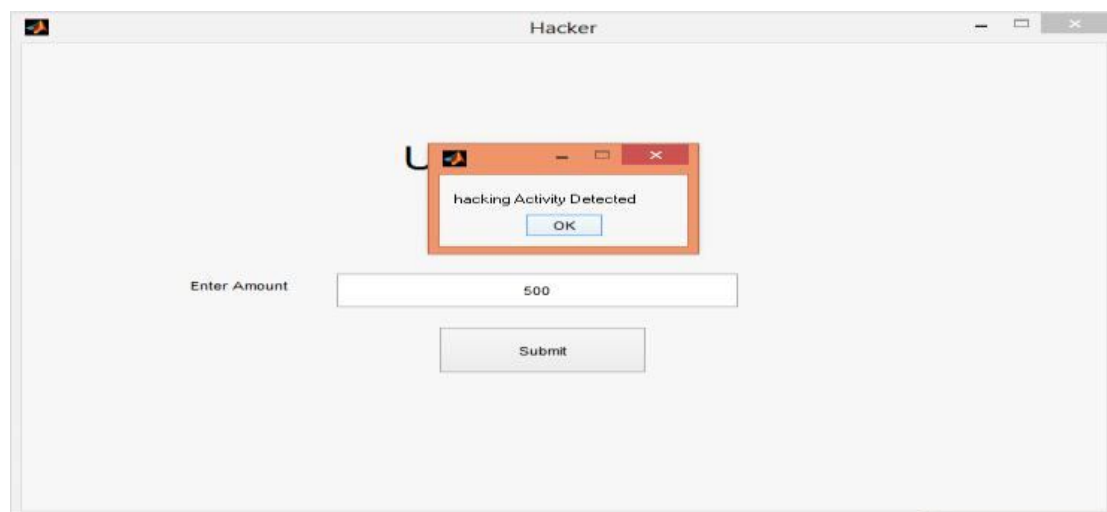


Fig 9 Hacking detected

IV. CONCLUSIONS

Experiments show that three protocol SSL, HTTP and hybridization of ssl and https with key exchange algorithm of attack on the session are feasible. In this way, established connection speed of HTTPS services is 2-100 times slower than normal HTTP connection, users will not be aware of attacks from the unknown attacker even if the delay caused by the change of link. Because users usually do not care about the alert in browser, when attacking in the first and third method, the majority of users will tend to accept a warning certificate even if the alert dialog; when attacking in second method, the user will not be aware because the little difference between the normal and attacking pages. In our experiment, with the help of SSL, HTTPS effectively to avoid the attack. Configuring a static ARP table can avoid attack in first and second method, how prevents MITM attacks on HTTPS connection-session more effective is the next focus of our study. Designing a Key agreement protocol with 100% Accuracy is never going to be an easy task. While proposing the Algorithm, We considered Man-in-the-middle Attack & Replay Attacks. However we cannot say that this technique can be secured completely from the attacker because the base selected by the middle man in this situation can be same as 'e' unfortunately. The Algorithm uses simple method (mathematical concepts) making implementation easier as well as avoidance from the common Attacks.

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